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February 28, 2002

Ex Parte Submission

Mr. William Caton
Federal Communications Commission
Room TW-B-204
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: Joint Application by BellSouth Corporation, et al, for Provision of In-Region, InterLATA Services in Georgia and Louisiana, CC Docket No. 02-35

Dear Mr. Caton:

On February 28, 2002, Telcordia provided BellSouth with a *Supplemental OSS Readiness Report: Pre-order/Order Integration Analysis*. This Telcordia report further supports BellSouth's already overwhelming showing that, using the documentation provided by BellSouth, CLECs are able to integrate ordering and pre-ordering using BellSouth's unparsed data stream. Indeed, Telcordia's test of BellSouth's systems was substantially the same as the test that it undertook in Texas and that this Commission found to provide "additional assurance" that CLECs could integrate. *See Texas Order* ¶ 158. At the request of the Common Carrier Bureau staff, I am filing a copy of Telcordia's report with this letter.

In accord with the Commission's rules governing ex parte communications, I am enclosing two copies of this letter. Please file-stamp and return the additional copy.

Sincerely,

Sean A. Lev

Attachment

cc: Renee Crittendon
Susan Pie
Cynthia Lewis
James Davis-Smith
Leon Bowles
Arnold Chauviere
Qualex

BellSouth

Supplemental OSS Readiness Report

Pre-order/Order Integration Analysis

TELCORDIA TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

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1. Introduction

BellSouth engaged Telcordia to review documentation and other information available to Competitive Local Exchange Carriers (CLEC), and determine whether the documentation enables a CLEC to utilize its backend systems to integrate information exchanged with BellSouth's pre-order and order systems using EDI.

The pre-order integration testing described in Section 2 was performed to answer that question. Using only BellSouth documentation, BellSouth-referenced documentation (i.e., industry standard references and web sites), Telcordia set out to develop a pre-order integration process simulator. Using this process simulator, Telcordia determined that BellSouth provides sufficient information to enable a CLEC to integrate pre-order and order. Telcordia bases this determination on the fact that Telcordia was able, using only the foregoing documentation and information, to query and store pre-order unparsed Customer Service Record information from BellSouth, and then use the pre-order information in the BellSouth order process. Telcordia notes that this information can also be used by a CLEC to establish billing and facilities records in its CLEC backend systems.

2. Processes to Pre-Order Integration

2.1 Steps to Establish Pre-Order Integration

2.1.1 Testing Requirements

The test required:

- Acquire TAG API from BellSouth
- Install TAG API on Telcordia Server
- Development of a GUI to capture unparsed CSRQ, send to BellSouth, and receive unparsed BellSouth CSRQ response information. This requires C++ programming experience.
- Development of code to translate BellSouth unparsed CSRQ response to a plain text file. This requires C++ programming experience.
- Development of script to parse CSRQ response text file.
- Creation of a CLEC pre-order/order system to store the response values.

The CLEC pre-order system was created with Access data tables. For parsing of response files (CSRQ response), Cold Fusion scripting language was used.

CSRQ response returns account level information, with detailed service and directory information for all Working Telephone Numbers (WTN) associated with the Account Telephone Number (ATN). Information from a CSRQ response can be used for one order or multiple orders and also gives a history of the Customer Account. This information is the basis for the pre-order interface and would be stored in the CLEC's pre-order/order system.

2.1.2 Documentation Requirements

To start the analysis, the following documentation was downloaded from the Web:

- Customer Service Record (CSR) Job Aid
- Pre-Order to Firm Order Mapping Matrix
- BellSouth Pre-Order Business Rules Data Dictionary
- BellSouth Pre-Order Business Rules Appendix

A pre-order/order system was developed which consisted of a relational database containing tables for Account, Service, Directory and other detailed information such as USOCs. The pre-order/order system stored all information returned on the unparsed CSRQ response that could be reused on an order.

2.1.3 Scripting

Script was written to parse and store, in the pre-order/order system, the results of the BellSouth response to the CSRQ file. The script parsed the pre-order unparsed CSRQ response to a local database that simulated a CLEC pre-order/order system to be assessed by CLEC applications involved in order, billing and facilities assignments. The pre-order parsing queries were used to:

- Dissect the response into text strings
- Pass the text strings through the response script
- Identify the string tags and/or position of the values within the string
- Extract the value or values from the string by using tags or position of data
- Assign the proper CLEC order systems field names to the values, based on the tag or position of the value
- Find a matching field in the CLEC simulated order system and store the value there.

One technical issue that Telcordia needed to address was the CAI segment. The CAI segment contains concatenated information which, for example, appears as: "450- 1/2 SW Peachtree LN NW Atlanta, GA." The segment can be made up of concatenated information derived from 3 to 9 fields and must be parsed back into those fields for use in the ordering process. All of the values are not required, so the information is not always in the same positions or sequence within the CAI segment. The values do not contain tags although some may contain identifying symbols such as "@" or "-." Telcordia parsed the CAI field by a combination of understanding the business rules for the values that make up the CAI field, the position and sequence of the data, and the valid values for some of the data segments within the field.

As a basis for this understanding, Telcordia utilized the BellSouth Customer Service Record (CSR) Job Aid. These documents provide BellSouth business rules, details of how these segments are constructed, as well as examples of these segments.

2.1.4 Data Capture

Next all values of the response were captured and stored in the pre-order/order system.

The last step in the process was to populate the LSR with the stored information in the pre-order/order system. Script was added to the pre-order/order system simulator to identify the stored values required to populate corresponding fields in the LSR. When the CLEC pre-order/order system was queried, based upon ATN or WTN, the identified fields were populated with the information returned from the CSRQ response.

3. Conclusion

Telcordia verifies that BellSouth provides or references sufficient documentation and information to CLECs to enable them to use their backend CLEC systems to integrate unparsed CSRQ response information with their backend systems. Telcordia bases this determination on the fact that Telcordia was able, using only BellSouth documentation, BellSouth-referenced documentation (i.e., industry standard references and web sites), to query and store unparsed CSRQ response information from BellSouth and then use the pre-order information in the BellSouth ordering process. Telcordia notes that this information can also be used by a CLEC to establish billing and facilities records in its CLEC backend systems.

As a result of its experience, Telcordia is recommending one change that should make it easier for CLECs to integrate CSRQ response information:

Telcordia found two tags in the List section of the CSRQ response. They were (FOL) and (PRE). Telcordia could not find reference to these tags in the Job Aid and suggests referencing them in this document.